

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDE-00 NRC-05 SAS-02
SMS-02 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-10
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00
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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 12006

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, US, UR
SUBJECT: US-USSR ARMS CONTROL WORKING GROUP ON RW/MDW,
FIFTH ROUND, FOURTH MEETING, AUGUST 3, 1978

REF: GENEVA 11738

RW MESSAGE NO. 6

1. SUMMARY. AT FOURTH MEETING OF ROUND FIVE, SOVDEL ELABORATED SOVIET POSITION ON ELEMENTS I-V, STATED THEY WOULD RETURN TO VERIFICATION ISSUE AFTER AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ON ELEMENTS I-V, AND REPEATED CALL FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON INDUCED-RADIATION WEAPONS. USDEL REITERATED OUR POSITIONS ON NEGOTIATIONS ON INDUCED-RADIATION WEAPONS.
2. FOURTH MEETING OF ROUND FIVE OF US-USSR WORKING GROUP ON RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AND NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION WAS HELD ON AUGUST 3 AT US MISSION.
3. AMB. LIKHATCHEV (HEAD OF SOVDEL) OPENED WITH PREPARED
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STATEMENT DEALING WITH USDEL PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ON SOVIET ARTICLES I-V (REFTEL) WITH VERIFICATION AND WITH SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR DISCUSSION OF INDUCED-RADIATION WEAPONS. WITH RESPECT TO SOVIET ARTICLES, HE MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- ARTICLE I: SOVDEL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT

US HAD NOT OBJECTED IN PRINCIPLE TO INCLUSION OF PROHIBITION ON USE IN THIS ARTICLE.

-- ARTICLE II: SOVDEL ARGUED THAT INCLUSION OF "WEAPON" AT BEGINNING OF PARA 1 WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE "EQUIPMENT OR DEVICE" COULD BE INTERPRETED AS NOT COVERING ARTILLERY SHELLS, WARHEADS, OR BOMBS WHICH, USING CONVENTIONAL EXPLOSIVES, COULD DISSEMINATE RADIOACTIVE CONFIDENTIAL

MATERIAL. DEL ALSO POINTED OUT THAT SIMILAR FORMULATION APPEARED IN BW CONVENTION. WITH RESPECT TO SUBSTITUTION OF "USE" FOR "DISSEMINATION", SOVDEL EXPLAINED DISSEMINATION DENOTED ONLY ONE POSSIBLE TYPE OF ACTION AT THE TARGET, WHILE "USE" COVERED BOTH DELIVERY TO AND ACTION AT TARGET.

-- ARTICLE III: SOVDEL NOTED US WAS STUDYING THIS ITEM.

-- ARTICLE IV: SOVDEL MAINTAINED THEY SAW NO "LOOPHOLES" IN THE FORMULATION "CONTRARY TO" AND NOTED US HAD ACCEPTED SUCH LANGUAGE IN ENMOD CONVENTION.

-- ARTICLE V: SOVDEL STATED THEY HAD ACCEPTED OUR AUGUST 29 LANGUAGE, MAINTAINING THAT ALTHOUGH DIFFERENT US CONFIDENTIAL

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LANGUAGE HAD BEEN OFFERED ON SEPTEMBER 27, THE AUGUST LANGUAGE HAD NOT BEEN WITHDRAWN.

4. ON VERIFICATION, SOVDEL STATED "...THE SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM AS IT WAS PROPOSED BY THE US SIDE IS UNACCEPTABLE TO US. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY OF FINDING AGREEMENT." HE ADDED THEY WOULD RETURN TO THIS QUESTION AFTER AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ON ARTICLES I-V.

5. WITH RESPECT TO INDUCED-RADIATION WEAPONS, SOVDEL ASSERTED THAT THESE NEGOTIATIONS PROVIDED A SUFFICIENTLY BROAD BASE TO DISCUSS ISSUES RELATED TO NEW TYPES AND SYSTEMS OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. HE CONTENDED INDUCED-RADIATION WEAPONS COULD BE DISTINGUISHED FROM "TRADITIONAL" NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THAT RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL WOULD BE THE PRINCIPAL, NOT THE SECONDARY MEANS OF CAUSING DESTRUCTION. SOVDEL ALSO ASSERTED THAT BY NOT INSISTING ON INCLUDING SUCH WEAPONS IN RW, THEY HAD FACILITATED PROGRESS ON RW.

6. AMB. FISHER (HEAD OF USDEL) REITERATED THAT US SAW NO QUALITATIVE DISTINCTION BETWEEN "INDUCED-RADIATION

WEAPONS" AND OTHER NUCLEAR WEAPONS, AND THAT US HAD SERIOUS MISGIVINGS ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS "IN PARALLEL". SOVDEL REPLIED THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON SALT, CTB, CW, AND RW WERE PROCEEDING IN PARALLEL, THAT NO ONE INTENDED TO LINK THEM, AND THAT THEIR PROPOSAL REGARDING INDUCED-RADIATION WEAPONS WAS ON THE SAME BASIS.

7. NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 9.

VANDEN HEUVEL

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